LUCERNE VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

January 7, 2020

Meeting called to order 5PM.

**Minutes** approved. Moved Rib. Second Frank Francis

**Treasurer’s Report.** Collection in December $89.97 went to pay for dinner. Mitsubishi picked up the rest.

**Sheriff Siebert.** Working to get more deputies on the marijuana teams. Six busts, 4000 plants. Trying to get the teams here more often, since there are so many. No stats for December yet. Q: difference between misdemeanor and felony regarding pot? Becomes felony if weapons involved. How many grow locations? 71 in LV, just the bigger ones. Cartel involvement, threat of retaliation and violence are making it hard to do anything. What about Portal Motel? Not known to sheriff. Maybe find out. Maybe as many as 500 marijuana grows in the County.

Congressman Cook, by Dakota. Federal budget passed in December. Rocket strikes on base in Iraq. 3% pay increase for military. King of Hammers coming up on public lands. Now Marine Corps must notify public of use during 30 day period one year in advance.

Shannon Dunkle for Jay Obernolte. Working on veterans’ issues, water hauling for the desert areas. Assistance available (maybe) for water haulers, well drillers, and others for retrofitting equipment to become compliant with Calif. emissions standards.

Dominic Heiden for Shannon Grove. Bill to prevent Trump being on the ballot ruled unconstitutional. AB5 Independent contractors bill being litigated – carve outs are “pay to play”. Office in Yucca Valley. Go to Grove’s website to enter your ideas for legislation.

**Third District by Mark Lundquist.**  Supervisor’s office is responding to constituent emails. Dirt roads an on-going issue – helping us to get Midway Rd. treated with a dust palliative – won’t get paved w/o a grant. Can get your own road maintained through Special Districts if 50% of voters on a particular road vote a tax to pay for it. Will be on property tax bill.

MWA by Jim Ventura. Lots of things coming down the pike. Lots of repairs – especially on the Morongo pipeline - and other costly activities. Hopefully costs get spread over 30 years. Revenue coming in currently is money already spoken for. Have to face the issue of new revenue, which usually comes from more taxes. Try to cut costs, cut workforce, keep need for revenue down. Chuck: our Este committee is going to try to get a recharge basin done in LV this year.

**LV Schools report:** Peter Livingston. Legislation took effect Jan. 1 affecting charter schools. Our District’s charter schools involve 8600 students. Brings $2.5 million into our school system. Our student enrollment is 840 - up almost 100 students over last year. New officers on school board. Jessica Risler: Please attend meetings, 2nd Thursday every month, 5:30 PM.

**Disaster plan.** County working with school to make High School a disaster shelter. Brian: County Fire still hassling about use of emergency trailer stored at fire station on east end of town. They deny there is anything of use in that trailer. CERT numbers way down. 7 volunteers. Training must be done in AV. Some supplies in closet in community center. Push is for radio communications since a big disaster may prevent any moving around – no cell service. Use Ham radios and CB radios, with a repeater at 8000 ft. using solar and batteries. Need to list resources and people (internal use only) with specific training and experience in various useful areas. Also people with helpful equipment.

**Cherde Crane of Complete Count Census**. Forming Complete Count Committees in various areas. Trying to get locals to take care of their own areas. Undercounting causes underfunding for schools, CERT, and other local agencies. Now recruiting people to knock on doors; a paid job. Can fill out required form on internet. Want to have everyone hired by March 31. Pays $17/hour. We need to get our share of federal money. Q. Use SCE data to help complete data? No. Q. Lots of people in LV don’t want to be counted, so what do you want from us? A. Support. Getting the word out. She will contact Library re: using its computers for people to file on line.

Chuck: can we get a core of 4-5 people to work on this? Coordinate lists of various organizations to get the word out.

Election of officers. Voted to retain the slate of officers (Chuck-chair/Richard – v. chair/Linda –sec./Dave-treasurer).

Meeting adjourned 7PM

Jan. 7, 3:30 Bd. meeting. LVEDA priorities: “What constitutes econ. dev”./options and grants for an Exec. Dir./land-use/roads/senior project/Leader/crime/Com. Plan/water hauling/code enf./disaster plan/water/etc. LVEDA bd. members could chair committees of LVEDA ‘members’ if there is any interest.